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11       **NEW YORK STATE**  
12       **OFFICE OF THE**  
13       **INSPECTOR GENERAL**

14  
15       **Interview of Lyle Mitchell**  
16                   **7/1/15**

17       **Clinton Correctional Facility**  
18                   **1072-316-2015**

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1 [START RECORDING]

2 [REDACTED] : July 1st,  
3 2015, and we are at the Comfort Inn Hotel in --  
4 New York. In the room we have myself, [REDACTED]  
5 [REDACTED], Investigator at the State Inspector  
6 General's Office.

7 [REDACTED]  
8 [REDACTED] : [REDACTED], Deputy Inspector General.

9 [REDACTED] : [REDACTED], attorney for  
10 Lyle Mitchell.

11 MR. LYLE MITCHELL: And, Lyle Mitchell.

12 [REDACTED] Okay. Mr. Mitchell, thank  
13 you for meeting with us today. The New York  
14 State Inspector General's Office is conducting  
15 this investigation pursuant to its authority  
16 under Article 4A of the Executive Law. Is the  
17 person accompanying you here today an attorney  
18 representing your connection with this  
19 proceeding?

20 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

21 [REDACTED] Okay, sir, if you could  
22 just identify yourself for the record.

23 [REDACTED] [REDACTED], and I'm  
24 representing Lyle with all proceedings.

25 [REDACTED] Okay. Mr. Mitchell, there

1 are certain instructions that we give to all  
2 witnesses. So I'll do that now. Your testimony  
3 today is being recorded. Please try to speak  
4 clearly and slowly, and let us finish our  
5 questions before you give an answer, and please  
6 give verbal responses. For example, say 'yes'  
7 or 'no' rather than nodding or shaking your  
8 head. This interview is voluntary. You are not  
9 being compelled to speak to the Inspector  
10 General today. Do you understand that?

11 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

12 [REDACTED] Okay. And, are you  
13 willing to speak with us voluntarily?

14 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

15 [REDACTED] Okay. In a moment you  
16 will be sworn in and you will be required to  
17 take an oath to testify truthfully. After you  
18 take the oath to tell the truth, if you  
19 intentionally make any -- false or misleading  
20 statement you may be prosecuted for perjury. Do  
21 you understand that?

22 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

23 [REDACTED] Okay. Do you have any  
24 questions?

25 MR. MITCHELL: No.

1 [REDACTED] Okay. If a question --  
2 incriminate you, you have the right to assert  
3 your 5th Amendment privilege and not answer the  
4 question. Do you understand that?

5 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

6 [REDACTED] Any questions about that?

7 MR. MITCHELL: No.

8 [REDACTED] Okay. Is there anything  
9 that would interfere with your ability to  
10 testify today?

11 MR. MITCHELL: No.

12 [REDACTED] Okay. Please raise your  
13 right hand. Do you swear or affirm that the  
14 testimony you're about to give will be the  
15 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the  
16 truth?

17 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

18 [REDACTED] Okay, so now that you've  
19 taken the oath, do you have condition or are you  
20 taking any medication that would affect your  
21 ability to understand my questions and answer  
22 truthfully?

23 MR. MITCHELL: No.

24 [REDACTED] Okay. So, we'll just  
25 start with some background questions. First,

1 what's your name again, for the record, if you  
2 could spell it?

3 MR. MITCHELL: Lyle Mitchell. L-Y-L-E, M-I-  
4 T-C-H-E-L-L.

5 [REDACTED] Okay, and we'll call you  
6 Lyle? Mr. Mitchell?

7 MR. MITCHELL: Lyle.

8 [REDACTED] Okay, Lyle. And, what's  
9 your home address?

10 MR. MITCHELL: [REDACTED],  
11 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] .

12 [REDACTED] And, what's a good contact  
13 number for you?

14 MR. MITCHELL: [REDACTED].

15 [REDACTED] Okay. And, what's the  
16 area code for that? [REDACTED]?

17 MR. MITCHELL: [REDACTED].

18 [REDACTED] Okay. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ?

19 MR. MITCHELL: [REDACTED].

20 [REDACTED] And, your date of birth?

21 MR. MITCHELL: [REDACTED].

22 [REDACTED] So, it's coming up.

23 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

24 [REDACTED] Are you currently  
25 employed?

1 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

2 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Okay, by who?

3 MR. MITCHELL: New York State Corrections.

4 [REDACTED] Okay. And, how long have  
5 you been a -- at DOCCS?

6 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

7 [REDACTED] Okay, how long have you  
8 been employed by DOCCS?

9 MR. MITCHELL: It'll be 10 years, September.

10 [REDACTED] What's your current title  
11 there?

12 MR. MITCHELL: Industrial Training  
13 Supervisor.

14 [REDACTED] Okay. Where are you  
15 currently located, in your job?

16 MR. MITCHELL: What do you mean?

17   What facility are you at?

18 MR. MITCHELL: Department of Corrections.

19 [REDACTED] And, how long have you  
20 held the title Industrial Training Supervisor?

21                   MR. MITCHELL: The whole 10 years; it'll be  
22 10 years, September.

23 [REDACTED] Who is your direct  
24 supervisor?

25 MR. MITCHELL: Scott Scholl. S-C-H-O-L-L.

1 [REDACTED] Okay. And, how long has  
2 Mr. Scholl been your supervisor?

3 MR. MITCHELL: About a year.

4 [REDACTED] Okay. Who is - - ?

5 MR. MITCHELL: [REDACTED].

6 [REDACTED] Okay. So what are your  
7 responsibilities in your days as an Industrial  
8 Training Supervisor?

9 MR. MITCHELL: We show the inmates how to  
10 sew clothing. We produce clothing for all of  
11 New York State.

12 [REDACTED] Okay. And, we're speaking  
13 specifically about your duties, okay.

14 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

15 [REDACTED] Okay.

16 MR. MITCHELL: I also work tailor repair.  
17 It's where we fix the sewing machines.

18 [REDACTED] Are those usually the only  
19 things that need to be repaired, as far as  
20 machinery goes, in that?

21 MR. MITCHELL: - - show them how to fix the  
22 machines, the big Gerber machines, the cut  
23 machines, and that's where we do stuff like  
24 that.

25 [REDACTED] The Gerber machines?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, the big Gerber  
2 machines. -- cut machines.

3                   ██████████ Cutting machines? Okay.

4                   MR. MITCHELL: And, after we -- or  
5 whatever, we take the--we send inmates to around  
6 the other shop to work on the other machines.  
7 If they can't fix it, we go pick the machine up.

8                   ██████████ So, inmates are also--  
9 inmates get trained how to fix different  
10 machines and stuff?

11                  MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

12                  ██████████ Okay. Do you train them  
13 in that?

14                  MR. MITCHELL: Yes, we do.

15                  ██████████ Okay. How many  
16 subordinates do you have, Lyle?

17                  MR. MITCHELL: How many inmates?

18                  ██████████ How many people--how many  
19 people--do you have anyone that you supervise?

20                  MR. MITCHELL: Well, I worked in the--I was  
21 running the tailor shop. We produce T-shirts at  
22 the shop I was in. We'd have up to 50 inmates.  
23 50 inmates per shop. Mine was like 47, 48.  
24 Tailor repair, there's only four.

25                  ██████████ Did you have any employees

1 that were under your supervision?

2 MR. MITCHELL: No.

3 [REDACTED] Okay.

4 [REDACTED] -- the--do you have the  
5 authority to escort inmates? Do you move them  
6 from tailor shop to tailor shop to get--

7 MR. MITCHELL: [Interposing] The only thing  
8 I do is--my wife worked--I was one--I'm not the  
9 --, I'm just a floater, now. They hired a guy  
10 to take that job. But, when I was in tailor  
11 repair, if they had to go get a machine, I would  
12 escort them to get the machine and bring it back  
13 to do the work. If the inmate went from one  
14 shop to another shop, the Officer would send him  
15 on a pass.

16 [REDACTED] You didn't go with them  
17 there, they just go on out?

18 MR. MITCHELL: They just go on a pass, yes.

19 [REDACTED] There's no special training  
20 when you bring them from room to room?

21 MR. MITCHELL: No.

22 [REDACTED] Okay.

23 MR. MITCHELL: No.

24 [REDACTED] It mostly just happened when  
25 you were with the tailor repair because you'd

1 have to go room to room.

2 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

3 [REDACTED] Okay.

4 MR. MITCHELL: So, when you're in your own  
5 shop, you stay in your shop.

6 [REDACTED] Then you would call an  
7 escort, correct, if you ever needed someone  
8 [crosstalk]?

9 MR. MITCHELL: Or, the Officer sends--if you  
10 need an inmate removed from the shop, you call  
11 for an escort, the Officer will then -- ,  
12 escort your inmate, an escort need to take back  
13 to the cell, or if someone had to go somewhere,  
14 if an option was send them on a pass, they  
15 would.

16 [REDACTED] Okay. Is there a separate  
17 tailor shop number for the T-shirt area that you  
18 did?

19 MR. MITCHELL: Tailor 2 was--

20 [REDACTED] [I] It's called Tailor 2?

21 MR. MITCHELL: Tailor 2 was -- the T  
22 shirts, yes.

23 [REDACTED] Okay. And, is there a  
24 separate tailor repair room where you bring the-  
25 -

1 MR. MITCHELL: [Interposing] Yes.

2 [REDACTED] What's that called?

3 MR. MITCHELL: Tailor--TRT--tailor repair--

4 [REDACTED] - - ?

5 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

6 [REDACTED] Okay.

7 [REDACTED] Where is that located,  
8 tailor repair?

9 MR. MITCHELL: Down on the second floor.

10 [REDACTED] Okay.

11 MR. MITCHELL: It's down by the main office.

12 [REDACTED] Okay.

13 [REDACTED] And, you could move with the  
14 four inmates back and forth if the current  
15 tailor shops [crosstalk] repair or pick up?

16 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

17 [REDACTED] Okay.

18 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

19 [REDACTED] And, how long were you in the  
20 T-shirt versus the tailor repair shop?

21 MR. MITCHELL: I ran the T-shirt--my shop--  
22 for about two years, and then Roger Trombley  
23 [phonetic] retired from tailor repair, so I just  
24 dove in until they filled the position.

25 [REDACTED] When was that, that

1                   Trombley retired from...

2                   MR. MITCHELL: I think it was June. June of  
3                   last year, I believe, he retired. And, I was in  
4                   there until April, end of April, end of April,  
5                   it was.

6                   ██████████ What do you prefer, the T-  
7                   shirt shop, now that you've done both, or--

8                   MR. MITCHELL: It doesn't matter. As long  
9                   as I was working, I didn't care at the time. I  
10                   did not, it did not matter. So, even then  
11                   though they took out the tailor -- , they said  
12                   Lyle, what do you want to do? Do you want to  
13                   run the shop, or do you want to stay a floater?  
14                   I just stayed a floater. A floater is, somebody  
15                   is out today, you cover for them -- .

16                   ██████████ But you would have worked  
17                   every day?

18                   MR. MITCHELL: Oh, yes, yes, I--

19                   ██████████ [So, you didn't have an  
20                   actual shop then, what would you do, physically?

21                   MR. MITCHELL: Well, maybe for the last two  
22                   months, I had been putting--we had a big order  
23                   for Rikers Island for Department of Corrections,  
24                   putting the stickers on the--you know, the  
25                   stencils on--and then -- inmates pants, they'd

1 get prisoners on the side, I was putting them  
2 on. That's what I was doing - - .

3 [REDACTED] Oh, okay. Putting those on  
4 until May, June, or April, May?

5 MR. MITCHELL: April, May, because it got  
6 close to June.

7 [REDACTED] - - April, May, Rikers, okay.

8 [REDACTED] Okay, and what was Mr.  
9 Trombley's first name?

10 MR. MITCHELL: Roger.

11 [REDACTED] Okay.

12 MR. MITCHELL: He retired last year.

13 [REDACTED] And, what did you do before  
14 you worked for Corrections?

15 MR. MITCHELL: I used to work for Daus Home  
16 Furniture [phonetic]. I started there in  
17 maintenance, and then I - - in shipping.

18 [REDACTED] How long were you there?

19 MR. MITCHELL: Six years.

20 [REDACTED] Any other places before that?

21 MR. MITCHELL: I worked at Two-Stitch  
22 [phonetic] - - . I worked at Bombay, I worked  
23 there for two years, maintenance mechanic.

24 [REDACTED] If you don't mind me asking,  
25 when did you meet your wife?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: At Two-Stitch. It was 21  
2 years ago.

3                   ████████ How long have you been  
4 married from--at the time that you met her?

5                   MR. MITCHELL: 14 years.

6                   ████████ So, you've known her for 21,  
7 been married 14.

8                   MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

9                   ████████ Okay.

10                  ████████ So, Lyle, when you started  
11 working with DOCCS and went into the Industrial  
12 Training field, did you get any training on the  
13 job when you started?

14                  MR. MITCHELL: Just their normal training on  
15 what you're supposed to do, games the inmates  
16 play, basic training on the - - .

17                  ████████ So video games that the  
18 inmates played?

19                  MR. MITCHELL: I've never seen that.

20                  ████████ Do you know - - ?

21                  MR. MITCHELL: Never seen that.

22                  ████████ More reading material, class  
23 instruction?

24                  MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

25                  ████████ And, what was the approach

1 for that training?

2 MR. MITCHELL: Just to tell us the games  
3 they play, be careful. Never been around an  
4 inmate before, they said what they played for  
5 games and stuff, they will try and trick you  
6 all, one little thing will be big thing, it  
7 will.

8 [REDACTED] Okay. So, is it fair to  
9 say that you were working in the tailor shop  
10 area for your whole time at the Clinton  
11 Correctional Facility?

12 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

13 [REDACTED] Okay. Did you receive any  
14 training about policies and procedures to be  
15 followed in that area, with regard to movement  
16 between shops or [crosstalk] machinery?

17 MR. MITCHELL: No, no.

18 [REDACTED] How about the use of any  
19 tools? Any...

20 MR. MITCHELL: On the tools, the -- tools  
21 that you want to be accountable for, each time  
22 out of the box and in the shop, make sure  
23 they're accounted for before you check out the  
24 toolbox, make sure everything was there. And, I  
25 had to call the Officer, tell them the tools are

1 all accounted for, I check my locker and make  
2 sure all the tools are all there, then I call  
3 the Officers, tools accounted for. -- get the  
4 toolboxes that go in the shops, and that night,  
5 when it's time to go home, -- all my tools,  
6 make sure everything's accountable and I put it  
7 up. And, if it's all accountable, everything's  
8 here, okay.

9 [REDACTED] So, when you were running  
10 your own shop, when you were doing the T-shirt  
11 shop, you were there the entire day, is that  
12 correct?

13 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

14 [REDACTED] You'd bring your lunch, you'd  
15 sit in there, you, you--was there a Security  
16 Officer standing [crosstalk]?

17 MR. MITCHELL: You had your same Officer all  
18 the time, and then you had your relief Officer.

19 [REDACTED] Just like you, the floater,  
20 they would have people that would come in?

21 MR. MITCHELL: Well, they had the same - - .  
22 A relief Officer is--say Monday and Tuesday  
23 right near Tailor 2. Tuesday and Wednesday he's  
24 in Tailor 3. Then, Friday, Saturday--Friday he  
25 might be in Tailor 6. Wherever somebody takes a

1 day off, a relief Officer fills it.

2 [REDACTED] In those two years you were  
3 running your own shop, was there ever an  
4 occasion that you had to--you, or combined with  
5 the Corrections Officer had to remove an inmate  
6 for bad behavior?

7 MR. MITCHELL: I've only had, since I've  
8 been there, the whole 10 years, there was a  
9 fight in the shop that was --. I was a relief  
10 Officer, a relief, and that was it. --. I've  
11 never--I've only written--maybe written two  
12 tickets the whole time I've ever been there.

13 [REDACTED] And, what would you call your  
14 relationship with inmates, or your ability to --  
15 inmates?

16 MR. MITCHELL: I don't have no trouble with  
17 them. They're always good to me, I always --  
18 very well with them. Superintendent, he always  
19 said, Lyle, there's more people that likes you.  
20 And, I never had not trouble --.

21 [REDACTED] You said when you were using--  
22 --did you do review of some of [crosstalk]?

23 MR. MITCHELL: Yes--well, was--on the  
24 inmates, you mean?

25 [REDACTED] No, for you, personally. We

1 can talk about that, but first, you  
2 [crosstalk].

3 MR. MITCHELL: -- on your anniversary date  
4 you get an evaluation, how was your work always  
5 done, how was your communication with your  
6 staff, your security, your bosses, --, it was  
7 always--everything was always excellent.

8 [REDACTED] And then, you had your  
9 separate review for the inmates [crosstalk]?

10 MR. MITCHELL: Every 56 days, I believe.  
11 I'm not positive. Every 56 days you do an  
12 evaluation on the inmates.

13 [REDACTED] You do. And, what does that  
14 consist of?

15 MR. MITCHELL: On their work ethic, how are  
16 they performing, do they stay busy, what have  
17 you heard in your shop as far as someone -- if  
18 they deserve a raise, give them a raise. They  
19 can move from one--Grade 2 from Grade 3.

20 [REDACTED] And, when you said 'we' do  
21 evaluations, who specifically is 'we'?

22 MR. MITCHELL: Only me, my shop.

23 [REDACTED] Did you give them more  
24 information like hey, you've got to listen more,  
25 you have to react [crosstalk]?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: - - . At the bottom they  
2 put down what they've accomplished, they learn  
3 how to sew. They can sew pocket panels, they  
4 can put pants together, they can sew T-shirts,  
5 they can - - . In the next one they have, what  
6 do you recommend how they can improve? You just  
7 appraise the job he does, all he does - - , or  
8 you put down you need to sit down more and stay  
9 working instead of talking and walking around.

10                  ████████ It's almost like a report  
11 card.

12                  MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, basically, yes.

13                  ████████ And, do they get a copy of  
14 that, too?

15                  MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, they do. One goes to  
16 the Office, you keep one in your shop in their  
17 record, and they get one.

18                  ████████ So, in that whole 10-year  
19 period, you've probably done hundreds of those.

20                  MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

21                  ████████ And, out of all that time  
22 period, there's only been a few tickets where  
23 you felt, even unrelated to evaluation, where  
24 you said--

25                  MR. MITCHELL: [I] One time I noticed that

1 there was stealing, and those -- T-shirt--he  
2 was a large, and the T-shirts he had on were  
3 3X's, they were, and he had like four or five of  
4 them on underneath his shirt. I pulled them  
5 off, he was stealing T-shirts. I blocked him on  
6 that.

7 [REDACTED] -- stealing -- .

8 MR. MITCHELL: -- .

9 [REDACTED] And, you noticed that before  
10 the Officer did, the CO; you brought it to his  
11 attention?

12 MR. MITCHELL: Yes. -- Officer --  
13 together, and -- shirts hanging down to--way  
14 down, they hang way down, there's something  
15 wrong. I was like, Officer, you want to check  
16 him? And, he checked him, he had three or four  
17 pair of T-shirts on. He had four -- , he said  
18 he -- stealing T-shirts. -- .

19 [REDACTED] Okay.

20 MR. MITCHELL: Or a pair of pants. That's  
21 the only thing I ever wrote anybody up there for  
22 was stealing.

23 [REDACTED] Stealing.

24 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

25 [REDACTED] Where did he steal the

1 shirts from?

2 MR. MITCHELL: The tailor shop.

3 [REDACTED] Okay.

4 MR. MITCHELL: The Tailor 2, coming to get a  
5 T-shirt, -- steal a T-shirt for two more.

6 [REDACTED] And, when you say T-shirt,  
7 you're talking about an undershirt you'd wear.

8 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

9 [REDACTED] Okay.

10 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

11 [REDACTED] And, just to go back on  
12 something you said when you talked about the  
13 tool inventory. How did you learn to do that,  
14 you know, what the proper procedures were for  
15 [crosstalk].

16 MR. MITCHELL: Whenever--when I was new, I'd  
17 run the shop and they'd tell us how we counted  
18 our tools, every -- box, or if there's  
19 something missing -- check, everything is here,  
20 everything's okay. When you get the tools out,  
21 you tag them so you know who's -- if the inmate  
22 has his scissors out, it's tagged with his name,  
23 his number. Everyone's issued a number. If  
24 they're number 41, they put their ID in the slot  
25 for 41. And when they tidy up, they put on that

1 tool, on the 41, 41 is Kennedy.

2 [REDACTED] Got it. So, someone, when  
3 you arrived at the tailor shop, another--is it  
4 correct to say another staff member taught you  
5 the [crosstalk]?

6 MR. MITCHELL: Yes, Roger showed me, he did,  
7 yes. That's how they've always done it.

8 [REDACTED] Okay. You touched briefly  
9 on movement of inmates between tailor shops. Do  
10 you know what the policy is in place for that?

11 MR. MITCHELL: No.

12 [REDACTED] Okay.

13 MR. MITCHELL: No.

14 [REDACTED] Have you ever seen inmates  
15 walking around between tailor shops? So,  
16 unescorted?

17 MR. MITCHELL: Only the ones at shop. It  
18 was mostly tailor repair. They'd get a call  
19 that the tailor repair -- down at Tailor 2.  
20 Okay, [REDACTED], you got to go to Tailor 2,  
21 and then the Officer would give him a pass, and  
22 he'd go outside, walk upstairs to Tailor 2.

23 [REDACTED] Okay. So, did you ever  
24 sent inmates out of your repair shop unescorted  
25 with any type of tools, or machinery, to go to

1 another--

2 MR. MITCHELL: [I] Always with the toolbox,  
3 but the toolbox is always locked, and then when  
4 they go in the shop, when the Officer it unlocks  
5 it -- , locks it, and they check the tools.

6 And before they leave, they count all the tools,  
7 make sure they're there, and then they lock the  
8 toolbox back up, they come back down to me.

9 And, before they -- , I always make sure all  
10 the tools are accounted for, or her, before I go  
11 back in--

12 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [I] -- for a wrench, or  
13 pliers, or--okay. So, the key is kept by the CO  
14 or the civilian in that tailor shop.

15 MR. MITCHELL: -- open every toolbox that  
16 we had two Phillips screwdrivers, one flat  
17 screwdriver, one feather wrench, one pair of  
18 pliers, one needle nose, -- in that toolbox.

19 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Did you ever have a time  
20 where a tool came up missing and they had to  
21 have a lockdown from your shop or anywhere where  
22 you were a floater?

23 MR. MITCHELL: The only time I ever had a  
24 tool ever missing, one inmate, an inmate --  
25 commissary -- that night, and he flushes

1       tweezers down the toilet, he did. And so, the  
2       whole shop had lockdown. The only time I've  
3       ever had one in the 10 years I was there, almost  
4       10 years, one time.

5                    ██████████ Did he end up admitting to  
6       that?

7        MR. MITCHELL: And that day, he came up to  
8        me, he said, Lyle, he admitted he owed on a bet,  
9        he could not pay the debt, so he wanted to get  
10       locked up, so he flushed the tweezers down the  
11       toilet.

12                  ██████████ Because, he knows that puts  
13        him back [crosstalk].

14        MR. MITCHELL: Maybe he flushed that -- ,  
15       and that's how they do it.

16                  ██████████ That's one way to stay safe,  
17        I guess.

18        MR. MITCHELL: That's the only time I've  
19       ever had a tool missing.

20                  ██████████ So, is it fair to say that  
21        inmate was removed from the shop?

22        MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, he -- .

23                  ██████████ -- .

24        MR. MITCHELL: -- . Right before 45 days,  
25        -- , I believe it was 45 days he was locked out

1 of the shop. But, in -- program, they end up  
2 coming back in a different tailor shop.

3 [REDACTED] He can apply back at some  
4 point after he served his time.

5 MR. MITCHELL: Yes, I believe it's 45 days.  
6 I'm not positive, but I believe it's 45 days.

7 [REDACTED] Okay. When you would arrive  
8 at the shop, would you always drive in with your  
9 wife?

10 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

11 [REDACTED] And, can you describe the  
12 process of when you enter the security gate?  
13 What kind of security was there day-to-day, and  
14 what did they do?

15 MR. MITCHELL: When you walk in in the  
16 morning, we'd walk through the door always  
17 together, and they'd just say hi, and we just  
18 walked--they'd open the gate, and we'd go  
19 through.

20 [REDACTED] How about--you would bring--I  
21 assume you brought your lunch?

22 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

23 [REDACTED] And, your wife would bring  
24 her lunch?

25 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

1 [REDACTED] And you used a separate  
2 bag?

3 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

4 [REDACTED] Would your wife bring any  
5 additional bags?

6 MR. MITCHELL: No.

7 [REDACTED] So, can you describe the bag  
8 [crosstalk] brought?

9 MR. MITCHELL: -- like, I don't know, 12  
10 inches by 12 inches. Mine was the dinner pail.

11 [REDACTED] It was. And, what did she  
12 have in that bag? What would she usually have  
13 in that bag?

14 MR. MITCHELL: Her sandwich, or whatever--  
15 sandwich and drink.

16 [REDACTED] Were you aware at any time  
17 that she was bringing anything in to try to get  
18 to an inmate?

19 MR. MITCHELL: Absolutely not.

20 [REDACTED] Any discussions at home?

21 MR. MITCHELL: Never.

22 [REDACTED] Were you aware that she was  
23 bringing cookies or brownies inside?

24 MR. MITCHELL: I thought they were for the  
25 Officers.

1 [REDACTED] The other civilian  
2 employees?

3 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

4 [REDACTED] She would never at home say  
5 I'm--or, would say she at home I'm bringing  
6 these in to share with the other workers?

7 MR. MITCHELL: No.

8 [REDACTED] How often would she bring in  
9 cooked goods, baked goods?

10 MR. MITCHELL: It was a lot, I guess. She'd  
11 cook them at home for me, and I'd bring my lunch  
12 in, and then she'd give some to the Officers --  
13 always giving cookies -- each other --. And,  
14 an Officer now always -- stayed home, they'd  
15 make something. So, she did the same thing.

16 [REDACTED] Did you ever see a time when  
17 she would bring something to cook? Not just a  
18 lunch to warm up, but something that had to be  
19 cooked?

20 MR. MITCHELL: -- lunch, or whatever,  
21 sometimes they would do a breakfast there.  
22 They'd bring in eggs and they'd cook in the  
23 shop; you'd cook in the shop.

24 [REDACTED] Oh, with the other civilians?  
25 MR. MITCHELL: Yes, yes. Before everybody

1 would come into Tailor 2, - - and we'd cook  
2 with her in the shop. So, we'd cook breakfast  
3 before the inmates got there.

4 [REDACTED] Was there a separate office  
5 area where you guys did a [crosstalk]?

6 MR. MITCHELL: No, we have a platform  
7 [phonetic] in the shop. Every shop has a  
8 platform in there, and we just cook on the flat  
9 one - - .

10 [REDACTED] So, you would have time, even  
11 if you're now working as a roamer, you would  
12 have time where you were in Tailor 2, there was  
13 time in the morning before the inmates--

14 MR. MITCHELL: [I] Yeah, we'd get there--I  
15 was always there by 10 after 7. We never  
16 received inmates until quarter to 8 and 8. So,  
17 there was a half-hour in there.

18 [REDACTED] And, would people from other  
19 shops, other civilians come in when you guys  
20 cooked? Was this like a group?

21 MR. MITCHELL: The only time anybody ever  
22 cooked, shops would pull together. Because - -  
23 on Tailor 8, - - up to Tailor 2, and - - cook.  
24 So, - - cooked at the shop - - cook.

25 [REDACTED] So, can you recall any

1 instances when you came through security, was  
2 your lunch bag, or while you were present with  
3 your wife, that security went through the bag?

4 MR. MITCHELL: Security checked my dinner  
5 pail once a year, as a law.

6 [REDACTED] And, when we say checked,  
7 that's including the looking in, is that right?

8 MR. MITCHELL: Including looking in. The  
9 only time they would check, if at all, if they  
10 step out at the front, then they'd jump up and  
11 they'd check your dinner pail. -- never  
12 checked the dinner pail, never.

13 [REDACTED] Never?

14 MR. MITCHELL: Never.

15 [REDACTED] Currently, would you--if  
16 there was some kind of a scanner machine or  
17 something, an X-ray machine like you'd see at  
18 the airport, would that offend you if civilians  
19 or other COs had to put their lunch box through  
20 there?

21 MR. MITCHELL: Never. It wouldn't offend me  
22 at all, no.

23 [REDACTED] Line it up and let it go  
24 through, and...

25 MR. MITCHELL: It wouldn't bother me at all.

1 [REDACTED] Were you or your wife get  
2 put through the metal detector on the other side  
3 of the machine?

4 MR. MITCHELL: Never. The only time I've  
5 been through a metal detector was my -- , my  
6 job interview.

7 [REDACTED] -- ?

8 MR. MITCHELL: No. -- everybody, including  
9 in the morning, you'd have to stop, keychains,  
10 your belt on, your snap that you hold your  
11 keychain, your keys, and everything else out.

12 [REDACTED] So, it was hard to take  
13 everything out?

14 MR. MITCHELL: Yes, yes.

15 [REDACTED] And, is it fair to say that  
16 you started to recognize faces at the security  
17 booth [crosstalk] ?

18 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, yeah. Everybody knows  
19 everybody.

20 [REDACTED] Hey there, how are you doing  
21 this morning?

22 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, -- , yeah.

23 [REDACTED] Do you ever specifically  
24 remember her bringing in any kind of frozen  
25 meat?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: Never.

2                   [Crosstalk]

3                   MR. MITCHELL: -- TV dinners, because she  
4 would put them in the freezer. -- or a TV  
5 dinner out of the microwave. -- .

6                   ████████ My wife makes lunch for me  
7 sometimes. Does she ever make your lunch?

8                   MR. MITCHELL: She always made my lunch,  
9 every morning.

10                  ████████ Did she make her own lunch at  
11 the same time, or did you make lunch for her?

12                  MR. MITCHELL: No, -- sandwich in, she'd  
13 make mine, make hers same time -- .

14                  ████████ So, it is fair to say that  
15 you wouldn't--you wouldn't go into her black bag  
16 and look to see what she [crosstalk]?

17                  MR. MITCHELL: I never have.

18                  ████████ Never one time in all those  
19 years?

20                  MR. MITCHELL: Never. I had no reason to, I  
21 didn't think.

22                  ████████ Is it fair to say you  
23 wouldn't have known exactly what she was  
24 carrying in that bag.

25                  MR. MITCHELL: No.

1 [REDACTED] Okay. Also, in coming in  
2 contact with inmates, were you aware that she  
3 received any kind of paintings or artwork?

4 MR. MITCHELL: She told me got the two, two  
5 paintings. One was of my son in the Air Force,  
6 and one was a picture of our dogs.

7 [REDACTED] Of your dogs?

8 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

9 [REDACTED] Okay. How many dogs do you  
10 have?

11 MR. MITCHELL: Two.

12 [REDACTED] So, when did that happen?  
13 Starting with the dog picture.

14 MR. MITCHELL: That's been...two years ago.

15 [REDACTED] Okay. And, how did that come  
16 about? How did you find out about the picture,  
17 or the painting?

18 MR. MITCHELL: She just had it in her bag -  
19 - come home, she said she got this painting.  
20 And then, with my son, yeah, when he joined the  
21 military, she had one done of him in the  
22 military.

23 [REDACTED] Were you guys in it too, or  
24 was just him alone?

25 MR. MITCHELL: No, just my son.

1 [REDACTED] In his Air Force uniform?

2 MR. MITCHELL: Yes, yeah.

3 [REDACTED] What did you ask her? What  
4 did you say to her about those pictures?

5 MR. MITCHELL: I said, where'd you get these  
6 pictures, she said, well, they're really good.  
7 She said I really wanted them -- to it. So...

8 [REDACTED] Did she say specifically who  
9 was doing it?

10 MR. MITCHELL: She said it was Matt.

11 [REDACTED] She did say that?

12 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

13 [REDACTED] And, had you known Matt from  
14 previous contact there?

15 MR. MITCHELL: Not--no kind of painting--I  
16 mean, I never worked with him in the shop until  
17 about two or three--about three years ago, I  
18 knew who he was, like anybody in the shop, I  
19 knew who he was, I was there.

20 [REDACTED] You'd recognize his face if  
21 you saw him?

22 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, yeah.

23 [REDACTED] But, you don't recall having  
24 any conversations with him, or anything?

25 MR. MITCHELL: For the last couple years I -

1 - talk to inmates -- , but always about  
2 football or sports -- was.

3 [REDACTED] Now, you're aware, as far as  
4 contraband rules in the prison, that--not to  
5 accept--with the games that inmates play, you're  
6 not to accept any kind of gifts, or anything  
7 like that. When she showed you those pictures,  
8 what if anything did you say to her regarding  
9 the [crosstalk]?

10 MR. MITCHELL: I said, why did you--she  
11 said--I said--why are you getting these  
12 paintings? She goes, I just wanted one of [REDACTED]  
13 [phonetic] in the military. So, she said  
14 there's won't be more. I said, I don't want to  
15 ever have no paintings, ever. She said she'd  
16 never do it again.

17 [REDACTED] Did you guys give that to  
18 [REDACTED] Is it [REDACTED]

19 MR. MITCHELL: The painting's in our front  
20 room.

21 [REDACTED] It was?

22 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, the -- took it, the  
23 two paintings.

24 [REDACTED] They did take them?  
25 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

1 [REDACTED] Did it come in a frame when  
2 you first got it, or was it [crosstalk]?

3 MR. MITCHELL: Nope, just the cardboard.

4 [REDACTED] Cardboard?

5 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

6 [REDACTED] In regard to the dogs, same  
7 thing?

8 MR. MITCHELL: Same thing.

9 [REDACTED] Did you have a conversation  
10 more specifically about that painting?

11 MR. MITCHELL: Yes. She told me at the same  
12 time that she got one of the dogs, the first  
13 one, and she said she'd also get one done of  
14 [REDACTED] in the military uniform, that was it.

15 [REDACTED] After the second one did you  
16 say, hey, no more?

17 MR. MITCHELL: I said, --, never, ever  
18 again. Never.

19 [REDACTED] Did she ask you, or say, hey,  
20 I'd like to get a picture of our house or a  
21 picture of--

22 MR. MITCHELL: [I] No. The only -- she did  
23 tell me -- was she was probably getting one  
24 made of our three kids that supposed to have  
25 been for our anniversary, but then Matt told her

1 he spilled something on it, then it was  
2 supposed to have been for my birthday.

3 [REDACTED] And, was that after the first  
4 two paintings?

5 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, but we never received  
6 it.

7 [REDACTED] Okay, okay. So, even after  
8 you had said, hey, no more, is it fair to say  
9 that she continued to have contact with Matt and  
10 asked--she specifically asked for another  
11 painting?

12 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

13 [REDACTED] Okay. Have you talked to her  
14 about that since then?

15 MR. MITCHELL: She said she--like, I know  
16 she never -- painting because she said he  
17 spilled coffee on it and it would have been for  
18 my birthday coming up. She never--she never  
19 sees it.

20 [REDACTED] But, did she talk to you  
21 about how he would get the paint to do that?

22 MR. MITCHELL: No, she did not.

23 [REDACTED] Never mentioned it?

24 MR. MITCHELL: No.

25 [REDACTED] Did you ask her how would be

1 able to paint them?

2 MR. MITCHELL: No, no.

3 [REDACTED] Did you ask her--

4 MR. MITCHELL: [I] I don't know - - package  
5 - - . I don't know what they allow in.

6 [REDACTED] Okay. That never came up in  
7 your conversations?

8 MR. MITCHELL: Never, never.

9 [REDACTED] Ever ask her how he got  
10 canvas to paint in on, physically?

11 MR. MITCHELL: I don't know. She - - in the  
12 bag - - , she did.

13 [REDACTED] - - , but what if a Sergeant  
14 or a Lieutenant came by to visit and have dinner  
15 and he saw that painting on the wall? What do  
16 you think could have happened to you or your  
17 wife if they realized it was from an inmate?

18 MR. MITCHELL: I don't know. I don't know  
19 if she would know--how would they know where it  
20 come from?

21 [REDACTED] If someone caught your wife  
22 taking that painting out, what do you know, as  
23 you sit here today, that could've happened  
24 administratively?

25 MR. MITCHELL: She could've been done right

1 there on the spot, done.

2 [REDACTED] Fired, right?

3 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

4 [REDACTED] So, even knowing that, you  
5 certainly didn't report to the Administration or  
6 any supervisor in the tailor shop that she was  
7 receiving paintings?

8 MR. MITCHELL: No.

9 [REDACTED] Okay. If you were to report,  
10 would Mr.--is it Scholl? Would that be the  
11 person you report to? Is that your direct  
12 supervisor?

13 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

14 [REDACTED] Okay. And, would he--so  
15 there was [REDACTED], and then--

16 MR. MITCHELL: [I] [REDACTED].

17 [REDACTED] Would that have been during  
18 [REDACTED] supervision time, when the few  
19 paintings were received?

20 MR. MITCHELL: I believe she was there.

21 [REDACTED] Okay. So, same question.  
22 You never reported that to [REDACTED]?

23 MR. MITCHELL: No, I did not.

24 [REDACTED] Okay. So, you didn't want  
25 your wife to get in trouble?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: No. That's why I told her  
2 never, ever again. -- never again.

3                   ██████████ Okay. At your home, you  
4 checked the--when the--do you guys share a  
5 credit card?

6                   MR. MITCHELL: Only on the debit card.

7                   ██████████ Debit card?

8                   MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

9                   ██████████ Do you check those, or does  
10 she check [crosstalk]?

11                  MR. MITCHELL: She normally pays all the  
12 bills.

13                  ██████████ So, was there ever any time  
14 you saw anything suspicious on the debit card?

15                  MR. MITCHELL: Never, never -- . They  
16 even--State Police even took our complete print-  
17 out on September of last year. They said --  
18 July 6th, whenever it happened, and they found  
19 absolutely nothing about it.

20                  ██████████ And, I assume you must be  
21 handy, because you're able to repair things?

22                  MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

23                  ██████████ So, would you find it unusual  
24 to--if you needed tools at the house, who would  
25 purchase those?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: I do.

2                   ████████ So, if your wife were to  
3 purchase any kind of tools, that would be  
4 unusual?

5                   MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

6                   ████████ That's fair to say? Okay.  
7 But, you don't ever recall a time that you saw  
8 her with tools or anything like that.

9                   MR. MITCHELL: No. She did tell me after,  
10 she went and got two hacksaw blades at Kmart;  
11 Kmart or Walmart.

12                  ████████ Okay. Did she tell you that  
13 she used the swipe card or debit card?

14                  MR. MITCHELL: She didn't say, so debit card  
15 or cash, I do not know. 95% of our stuff was  
16 always debit card.

17                  ████████ Debit card.

18                  MR. MITCHELL: Always.

19                  ████████ When you had that  
20 conversation, did you ask her if that was the  
21 only time, or did you discuss...

22                  MR. MITCHELL: I asked her--after all this  
23 came out, if there's anything else she ever  
24 bought, she said no, never, ever. That's all  
25 she took them was two hacksaw blades, she took a

1       prick point [phonetic], I guess, out of my  
2       toolbox, and the hooks there.

3       ██████████ Out of your toolbox?

4       MR. MITCHELL: Yes. And, - - , but that's -  
5       - .

6       ██████████ And, did you go back to your  
7       toolbox to see if they were missing?

8       MR. MITCHELL: I never--

9       ██████████ [I] You wouldn't even notice.

10      MR. MITCHELL: I would never know if she's  
11      got - - or a - - .

12      ██████████ Okay. But, you haven't  
13      personally gone back to even look?

14      MR. MITCHELL: I did check after, yes, when  
15      I met with Troopers, and they - - tools, and I  
16      said - - I never realized that - - stuff.

17      ██████████ So, she did say to you that  
18      she brought it? Did she tell you how she  
19      brought it in?

20      MR. MITCHELL: She brought in hamburger,  
21      because Matt told her to put it in hamburger  
22      that she and Robert would come get for him and  
23      take it back.

24      ██████████ Oh, so she said,  
25      specifically, she said that she talked about

1 Gene Palmer?

2 MR. MITCHELL: Matt said to put it in  
3 hamburger, to put it--and bring it in, and Gene  
4 Palmer would go get it.

5 [REDACTED] And, just to be clear, this is  
6 all after the fact?

7 MR. MITCHELL: Yes, this was after the fact  
8 [crosstalk] she told me.

9 [REDACTED] These were things you learned  
10 from your wife--

11 MR. MITCHELL: [I] After.

12 [REDACTED] --after the escape.

13 MR. MITCHELL: -- what happened. When I  
14 asked her what happened here, and she told me  
15 how it happened.

16 [REDACTED] Okay. Yeah, so that's clear  
17 on the record. You never had any--is it correct  
18 that you never had any knowledge of her bringing  
19 in blades or any kind of--

20 MR. MITCHELL: [I] Never. Absolutely, no.

21 [REDACTED] And, besides driving in, I  
22 would assume you'd drive out together?

23 MR. MITCHELL: We're always together, yes.

24 [REDACTED] When you exit the entrance,  
25 or the gate, was there any occasion, ever, where

1       they--that you recall--that they checked your  
2       bags or your wife's bag?

3       MR. MITCHELL: No.

4                    [REDACTED] Was there ever an occasion  
5       that you went through the metal detector?

6       MR. MITCHELL: No.

7                    [REDACTED] Was there ever an occasion,  
8       that you recall, was either your wife or  
9       yourself, that you were personally frisked?

10      MR. MITCHELL: No.

11                  [REDACTED] Was there ever an occasion  
12       where, that you recall, that your bags or your  
13       wife's bags were peered into by Officers,  
14       leaving the site?

15      MR. MITCHELL: No. Not leaving the side,  
16       never.

17                  [REDACTED] Never. Did you ever ask your  
18       wife how she took the paintings out of the  
19       building?

20      MR. MITCHELL: That one painting of the  
21       dogs, it was small, she put it in her black bag.  
22       The one with my son, Gene Palmer took it to her  
23       vehicle.

24                  [REDACTED] Gene Palmer walked it out of-  
25       -

1 MR. MITCHELL: [I] Yes.

2 [REDACTED] --or, what you were told,  
3 just so we're clear on the record, your wife  
4 told you that Gene Palmer physically walked the  
5 picture of [REDACTED] out of the facility,  
6 and then gave it to her in the car in the  
7 parking lot?

8 MR. MITCHELL: Yes, put it in the car.

9 [REDACTED] Put it in her car?

10 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

11 [REDACTED] Okay. How big, specifically,  
12 was the dog picture?

13 MR. MITCHELL: It wasn't much bigger than  
14 this pad, about the size of that pad.

15 [REDACTED] Okay. You said an 11 by 8  
16 and a half?

17 MR. MITCHELL: Correct.

18 [REDACTED] And, how big was the  
19 portrait?

20 MR. MITCHELL: It's this tall.

21 [REDACTED] He's showing like 2 feet by a  
22 foot and a half? Is that--

23 MR. MITCHELL: [I] Yeah, yeah.

24 [REDACTED] And, is it fair to say that  
25 something that size would be difficult to bring

1 out in the black bag like the one you  
2 described?

3 MR. MITCHELL: It would never fit in her  
4 black bag.

5 [REDACTED] And, it would be difficult to  
6 conceal in clothing, is that fair to say?

7 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

8 [REDACTED] Okay. Did you have any  
9 conversation with your wife about--after you  
10 learned the Matt was drawing those first few  
11 pictures we previously discussed, did you have  
12 any discussion with her about getting too close  
13 with inmates?

14 MR. MITCHELL: No.

15 [REDACTED] Okay.

16 MR. MITCHELL: In the shops--I'll tell you--  
17 when I was -- my instructor was. But, he  
18 always was the instructor. And, some of these  
19 other inmates -- they tell you look, Joyce,  
20 stay on that platform -- told me what happened.  
21 So, you always here that they will -- .

22 [REDACTED] Did Joyce ever talk about  
23 Matt outside of the paintings? Any other  
24 contact?

25 MR. MITCHELL: Not normally, no.

1 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Did she ever talk about  
2 Sweat with you?

3 MR. MITCHELL: No.

4 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Did she ever talk about any  
5 other inmates?

6 MR. MITCHELL: No, or anybody else --  
7 talked on our way home, discussion went well, or  
8 stuff like that.

9 [REDACTED] Did she ever specifically  
10 talk about CO Palmer?

13 [REDACTED] There was the investigation--she  
14 talked to you about Sweat, right?

1 up. So, my wife went down and said Scott,  
2 look, when he comes--

3 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [I] Was your wife--just hold  
4 on for second--was your wife present for that  
5 conversation? Did she overhear that herself?  
6 Did she actually--

7 MR. MITCHELL: [I] No, no, I don't--I don't  
8 know. I don't know. But, she said -- he's a  
9 very good worker. Production's up and -- .  
10 This man is a good worker, real good worker, so  
11 they had to take him back. But, he was put in  
12 Tailor 8, Vicky Safford said that rumor that  
13 Tilly was running with Sweat, that's why she  
14 wanted him back in the shop. When they put him  
15 down in Tailor 8--

16 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [I] Just want to clear it up,  
17 for the record, when you say 'running with  
18 Sweat,' what do you mean?

19 MR. MITCHELL: Messing around with him at  
20 the shop.

21 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Physically, sexually?

22 MR. MITCHELL: No, just something going on,  
23 too close, too [crosstalk].

24 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Too personal?

25 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

1 [REDACTED] Too much personal contact?

2 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, yeah. So when she put  
3 him in Tailor 8, she told a civilian down there,  
4 she wanted to know if Joyce Mitchell was ever  
5 done there near--down there to see Sweat. If  
6 she ever does, you let us know. So, [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED] told me about it. So, before I said  
8 anything--

9 [REDACTED] [I] Hold on just for just one  
10 second, because I'm not familiar with all these-  
11 -

12 MR. MITCHELL: [I] [REDACTED] ran Tailor 8  
13 shop.

14 [REDACTED] Okay, and that's where Sweat  
15 was moved [crosstalk].

16 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, yeah. So, when they  
17 told us that Vicky was down there saying that  
18 she was running with--messing around with Sweat,  
19 she wanted to make sure she wasn't down there to  
20 talk to him, or whatever. So, before I said  
21 anything at all, I went to see her Officer, Al.  
22 I said, Al, I'd like to ask you question. I  
23 said, I got to know if did you ever see Tilly  
24 messing with Sweat, or go in that back room with  
25 Sweat? He said, Lyle, ever, never, ever once.

1 If she went in the tailor - - a machine, a  
2 part off a machine, he stood there by the door,  
3 she went and got the part. She was always  
4 telling me what was going on. If he went to get  
5 a part, she - - stayed at the platform, and  
6 stood and he went and got the part for him. I  
7 said, okay, Al, I said, don't lie to me. Lyle,  
8 I swear to God, nothing. That day, the relief  
9 Officer, he was going there--

10 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [I] I'm sorry, what was Al's  
11 last name?

12 MR. MITCHELL: Trombley.

13 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Trombley. And, you said  
14 [crosstalk].

15 MR. MITCHELL: [Crosstalk] he was.

16 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Okay.

17 MR. MITCHELL: And then, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
18 was a relief Officer. I come the next morning,  
19 I asked [REDACTED] the same thing. I said, did my  
20 wife ever go in the back room with Sweat?  
21 Never, ever once. He said we will--when - -  
22 investigated, we would tell - - , never, ever  
23 went in that back room with him, ever. So,  
24 okay. I - - Superintendent. She was off that  
25 day so I talked to [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I said, look,

1       they're running their mouth about Tilly, my  
2       wife's running around with Sweat. I said, it's  
3       going to get him beat up, or get my wife hurt  
4       they think she mess around with inmates, or the  
5       inmate will mess around with me. I said, that's  
6       wrong. So, they investigated it, nothing ever  
7       happened. It wasn't--so, that's how I found out  
8       about Sweat.

9                                  Did they ever call you in and  
10      tell you the findings of the--

11     MR. MITCHELL: [I] Yes, they did. She had a  
12      letter -- no findings [crosstalk].

13     [REDACTED] They gave your wife a letter?

14     MR. MITCHELL: Yeah. There were no findings  
15      that she had anything do to with Sweat, and then  
16      they were--and they already -- when she went  
17      into all this, the only one -- out of this was  
18      Vicky.

19     [REDACTED] Vicky was -- .

20     MR. MITCHELL: Because, she knew if she lied  
21      or -- lock up.

22     [REDACTED] -- lock up.

23     MR. MITCHELL: Yes, yes.

24     [REDACTED] Prior to that incident, did  
25      you ever have any trouble with Vicky?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: Not much, never. I never  
2 had trouble with anybody down there. I never  
3 have. I just do my job, and that's it.  
4 Whatever they tell me to do, I do.

5                   ██████████ Did your wife ever talk about  
6 having any problems with Al Trombley, like not  
7 working his work product, or encounter any--

8                   MR. MITCHELL: [I] Never. They all get  
9 along really well.

10                  ██████████ Did she ever have a problem  
11 with ██████████, the relief Officer?

12                  MR. MITCHELL: Same way, excellent.

13                  ██████████ Did she ever complain--were  
14 there any other Officers besides them?

15                  MR. MITCHELL: This is the last one, before  
16 she got in trouble, was--I'm thinking of his  
17 name--there was a new Officer.

18                  ██████████ Just for the record, what are  
19 you referring to? You have three pieces of  
20 paper in front of you.

21                  MR. MITCHELL: This is when I gave the  
22 statement to the State Police.

23                  ██████████ Okay, so that's a copy of  
24 your statement, the written statement you gave  
25 to the Police?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

2                   ██████████ Okay.

3                   MR. MITCHELL: ██████████

4                   ██████████ ██████████ Did she ever  
5 say anything about ██████████ and how he  
6 handled the shop?

7                   MR. MITCHELL: He was only in there one week  
8 before it happened.

9                   ██████████ Oh, he was a brand new  
10 Officer?

11                  MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

12                  ██████████ Okay. Did she mention  
13 anything about him?

14                  MR. MITCHELL: Only she was--I had worked  
15 with ██████████ before. He's a little  
16 arrogant. -- inmate punch in, the time card,  
17 punch in, -- . So, they go down, he stands his  
18 way in front of him. -- and he thinks it was  
19 funny to stand in front of the inmate -- when  
20 he walked by. I said, if -- hurt you one day.  
21 He said -- hurt you, he just laughed about it.  
22 So, he was really--he was a little arrogant.  
23 Just a week he got to be in the shop before it  
24 happened, that day, two, three days before it  
25 happened--if you break a needle, you going to

1 get the needle, need the needle change your  
2 machine. He asked the guy, so where's the tip  
3 to that, the needle? He couldn't find it in the  
4 machine. Well, either find it or I'm going to  
5 lock you up.

6 [REDACTED] So then, that wasn't until--  
7 you're talking--

8 MR. MITCHELL: [I] Until, no this wasn't  
9 until [crosstalk] -- trouble with [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED] Just so I'm clear on the  
11 record, you're talking about before the escape?

12 MR. MITCHELL: Yes. A week before.

13 [REDACTED] So, like a week before--go  
14 ahead, I'm sorry.

15 MR. MITCHELL: It was on that Monday. So,  
16 he said, -- I'm going to lock you up.

17 [REDACTED] Who--is this [REDACTED]  
18 saying to an another [crosstalk]--

19 MR. MITCHELL: [I] To an inmate. So, he was  
20 miserable, all that. Probably the last day she  
21 worked, they quit the one production for a  
22 different production. That day she was -- .  
23 So, [REDACTED] asks, he said, now, how come  
24 that man over there's not working? She said, I  
25 don't have the work for him, we got to wait for

1 you to get--build up - - work.

2 [REDACTED] So, just so I'm clear, this  
3 is Friday, June 5th?

4 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

5 [REDACTED] Okay.

6 MR. MITCHELL: So, she said that he said, I  
7 don't have no work for him. Well, I'm going to  
8 lock them up. And she said, you do your job,  
9 I'll do my job. I'm production, you're  
10 security. Well, that - - drove home that night,  
11 she was not over him, because he was...

12 [REDACTED] So, again for clarity and the  
13 record, you weren't there for this encounter?

14 MR. MITCHELL: No.

15 [REDACTED] Did you leave work together  
16 that night?

17 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

18 [REDACTED] Did you talk about that in  
19 the car?

20 MR. MITCHELL: On the way home, that's when  
21 she - - how he's miserable to work with.

22 [REDACTED] But, she'd only been working  
23 with him [crosstalk].

24 MR. MITCHELL: He'd often be the relief  
25 Officer, so she'd worked with a few times there.

1       But, then he got to take over her shop.

2                    But the actual, physical  
3       shop, he'd only been working with her for a  
4       week?

5       MR. MITCHELL: A week--two at the very most.

6                    Okay. And, do you recall  
7       what exactly she said in the car ride?

8       MR. MITCHELL: Just like I told you. She  
9       said it's hard to work with him, he wants to  
10      lock them up because they're not working. He's  
11      security, I need to be production, and I'm  
12      always - - .

13                   Did you talk about it more at  
14      home?

15       MR. MITCHELL: No, because, I always left my  
16      work at home--I mean, at work. I walk in the  
17      door, and my work stays there. So, I didn't - -  
18      little harder. She knows that when I've had  
19      enough I just turn the radio up. I've had  
20      enough. I just don't want to hear any more--I  
21      love my job, I used to work construction, I know  
22      what it is to work. So, this is a great job.  
23      You leave the job behind you, you won't have any  
24      trouble, you know? I'm not saying that - - .  
25      But, a lot of females bring stuff home. I had

1       riders, two females, and always, -- that shop  
2       until we get home, did I tell you what happened  
3       in Tailor 3 today? I don't care what happened,  
4       I don't. -- always stays, they always is  
5       taking it home with them.

6       [Crosstalk]

7       ████████ -- drove home?

8       MR. MITCHELL: They used to ride with us  
9       because -- so far.

10       ████████ Okay. How far is your  
11       commute?

12       MR. MITCHELL: An hour and five minutes one  
13       way.

14       ████████ Oh, wow. So, you would drop  
15       people off along the way?

16       MR. MITCHELL: In all, I'd pick up two  
17       riders in all.

18       ████████ -- ?

19       MR. MITCHELL: They would drive one day, one  
20       week, I would drive the next week. We'd  
21       alternate it. I just got where I just couldn't  
22       take it no more. By the time I got home -- .  
23       I said, I can't take this no more. So, I got  
24       rid of my riders.

25       ████████ So, there were occasions you

1 brought other people home. In those  
2 occasions, was there ever any discussion--you're  
3 saying it was specifically about COs or inmates?

4 MR. MITCHELL: They talked about production,  
5 what this person was doing, what that person was  
6 doing.

7 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Was there ever any occasion  
8 that she was getting too close with inmates?

9 MR. MITCHELL: No.

10 [REDACTED] Nothing like that? Did any  
11 of the riders that were with you ever approach  
12 you and say--

13                   MR. MITCHELL: [I] No. I haven't had riders  
14 for the last two years.

15 [REDACTED] Beyond supervisor-type  
16 people, coming to talk to each other, the co-  
17 workers, did anyone ever approach you prior to  
18 the escape and say, hey, I just wanted to give  
19 you the heads up, you should watch her.

20 MR. MITCHELL: No.

21 Nothing like that?

22 MR. MITCHELL: No.

23 [REDACTED] After Sweat was removed from  
24 Tailor 1, did you ever talk to him again?

25 MR. MITCHELL: - - Tailor 8, how's it going

1 today, Mr. Sweat? Good, how are you? That's  
2 it, though.

3 [REDACTED] You never approached him and  
4 said anything like, hey, you know, is anything  
5 true like you were talking with other co-  
6 workers?

7 MR. MITCHELL: I mentioned - - about the  
8 idea of kind of talking to him too, they did.

9 [REDACTED] To who?

10 MR. MITCHELL: Mr. Sweat. IE talked to him.  
11 And, said, Lyle, look, never, ever nothing going  
12 on, he said. Well, I don't - - the instructor.  
13 - - instructor, I was with him almost every day.  
14 Was there ever trouble? - - . I said, do you  
15 want to deal with it, or do you want me to take  
16 care of this, - - the shop. He goes, I'll take  
17 care of it, or someone you know. You always  
18 spend most of your time with your instructor.

19 [REDACTED] Sure. There was a time you  
20 said that--who approached who?

21 MR. MITCHELL: - - Tailor 8, I run with  
22 Sweat. I said, is there anything bothering you,  
23 is anything going on? He said, Lyle, he told me  
24 IE - - that they're investigating it, I said, I  
25 went to the Superintendent. I said, they're

1 going to get you beat up, or they're going to  
2 get my wife hurt. If they're messing with you,  
3 -- . -- it's not right, he said, Lyle, -- IE  
4 come talk to him, never nothing, there was never  
5 nothing, -- he was in the instructor.

6 [REDACTED] So, he told you I never did  
7 anything?

8 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

9 [REDACTED] It was nothing like that.

10 All right.?

11 MR. MITCHELL: -- on purpose.

12 [REDACTED] As you sit here today, do you  
13 have any questions--

14 MR. MITCHELL: [I] Ask her -- Sweat? No.

15 [REDACTED] No?

16 MR. MITCHELL: No, never talked to Sweat.

17 [REDACTED] -- questions -- about Matt?

18 MR. MITCHELL: I didn't hear nothing about  
19 Matt until she told me.

20 [REDACTED] So, Matt wasn't ever on your  
21 radar?

22 MR. MITCHELL: Never.

23 [REDACTED] Even though he had painted  
24 stuff, but--right?

25 MR. MITCHELL: Never.

1 [REDACTED] Never?

2 MR. MITCHELL: Never said his - - when she  
3 told me I just, I did. I didn't know what to  
4 say.

5 [REDACTED] Okay.

6 [REDACTED] Can I ask a question?

7 [REDACTED] Absolutely.

8 [REDACTED] So, when your wife came  
9 home with the paintings from Matt - - , did you  
10 ask her what she had to give in return for them?

11 MR. MITCHELL: Yes, I did. On one painting,  
12 - - the dogs, I - - dogs, they wanted reading  
13 glasses in a little white cup. So, - - painting  
14 at night - - light - - . And, the ones with the  
15 sparring gloves, for that painting for my son in  
16 the military, and I said never, ever again. She  
17 said, never.

18 [REDACTED] And, did she tell you how she  
19 got those items? Because, obviously, it would  
20 have been sort of clear.

21 MR. MITCHELL: The glasses?

22 [REDACTED] You could put--

23 MR. MITCHELL: [I] She got them on eBay.

24 [REDACTED] That would be considered  
25 contraband, I guess, and she knew that. Is it

1 fair to say your wife knew that--

2 MR. MITCHELL: [I] Yes.

3 [REDACTED] --bringing anything to an  
4 inmate, physically, it would be contraband.

5 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

6 [REDACTED] Did she tell you where she  
7 got those?

8 MR. MITCHELL: She got them off eBay, the  
9 glasses. The sparring gloves--the inmates get  
10 this catalog that they can order their stuff out  
11 of, and that's where she got the sparring  
12 gloves, she had to order them - - .

13 [REDACTED] So, she's the one that  
14 ordered them?

15 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

16 [REDACTED] Did she order them through  
17 the facility, or did she order them on her own?

18 MR. MITCHELL: I believe on her own, I  
19 believe.

20 [REDACTED] Okay, - - . Have you talked  
21 to her since then about that, specifically how  
22 she ordered them?

23 MR. MITCHELL: No.

24 [REDACTED] Okay. And then--did she say  
25 that she gave them--did she where she provided

1       them to them? Did she say, I gave them to  
2       them in the repair shop?

3            MR. MITCHELL: In the repair shop.

4            ████████ Did she say how she  
5       physically [crosstalk]?

6            MR. MITCHELL: -- folded up -- pockets or  
7       -- . If you put them on, they look like  
8       regular reading glasses. That's all they look  
9       like, they look like -- little light -- glass,  
10      that was it.

11           ████████ Did she show you them before  
12      she gave them?

13           MR. MITCHELL: She told me she got them for  
14      them before the painting.

15           ████████ Before this, did she show you  
16      what she had gotten them?

17           MR. MITCHELL: Well, this was like two years  
18      ago. When she got the paintings, yeah she did,  
19      they were them.

20           ████████ Okay. And, certainly--and I  
21      know -- but you never reported that to any  
22      supervisor?

23           MR. MITCHELL: No, no.

24           ████████ And then, about the boxing  
25      gloves--you never--is it boxing gloves we're

1 talking about?

2 MR. MITCHELL: Sparring gloves.

3 [REDACTED] They were [crosstalk]?

4 MR. MITCHELL: No.

5 [REDACTED] Like -- ?

6 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

7 [REDACTED] And, you never told any of  
8 your supervisors about that?

9 MR. MITCHELL: No.

10 [REDACTED] Did you counsel your wife and  
11 say--

12 MR. MITCHELL: [I] I told her--that's when I  
13 said, never, ever again. It ain't losing your  
14 job over. She said, never, and she never--until  
15 I found out she was getting the painting for --  
16 , but she never got it.

17 [REDACTED] Okay. So, there was never a  
18 discussion where you said, hey, you start  
19 hauling inmates things, or--

20 MR. MITCHELL: [I] I told her [crosstalk]  
21 you know this, -- one day they go for something  
22 different?

23 [REDACTED] Okay.

24 [REDACTED] And, that was about two  
25 years ago that she bought those things on eBay?

1           MR. MITCHELL: I believe about two years  
2 ago, I think, when she did that. A year or two-  
3 -I know it's been way over a year, a year and a  
4 half, two years, I'm guessing there.

5           ██████████ Okay.

6           MR. MITCHELL: I know it's when my son was  
7 in the military.

8           ██████████ You physically saw the  
9 eyeglasses at home, but did you actually see the  
10 sparring gloves at home?

11          MR. MITCHELL: I don't think I did.

12          ██████████ Okay. It was just the  
13 glasses?

14          MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

15          ██████████ And, she--to the best of your  
16 knowledge, she would say she would just - -  
17 those, but the gloves were a little bit bigger.  
18 Would she be able to hand those, or, she'd leave  
19 them some place?

20          MR. MITCHELL: She'd give them to him.

21          ██████████ We're talking about Matt?

22          MR. MITCHELL: Correct.

23          ██████████ Okay.

24          MR. MITCHELL: To Matt. My wife took it,  
25 Gene Palmer comes out and took them over for

1      ||    her.

2 [REDACTED] Did Gene Palmer--I'm sorry,  
3 say that again. What you--do you know this from  
4 your wife, or are you speculating?

5 MR. MITCHELL: That's what my wife told me.

7 MR. MITCHELL: Gene--the sparring gloves,  
8 she brought them in, and Gene took them over to  
9 - - put them in his cell.

10 [REDACTED] So, Gene would leave the  
11 tailor shop with them...

12 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

13 [REDACTED] And walk them over to the A  
14 block, the Honor Block, and give them to--

15                   MR. MITCHELL: [I] Then he just put them in  
16                   his cell.

17 Put them in his cell.

18 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

19 [REDACTED] You never talked to Gene--did  
20 you ever talk to Gene Palmer about the--if you  
21 know, why would it be easier for a CO to bring  
22 those over rather than have the inmate bring  
23 them over? If you know.

24                   MR. MITCHELL: They always called Matt and  
25                   Sweat 'Gene Palmer's Boys.' Everybody through

1 the whole jail knows that. They are known as  
2 Gene Palmer's Boys.

3 [REDACTED] And, did you know that before  
4 he escaped?

5 MR. MITCHELL: Oh yeah, known that for a  
6 long time, every...

7 [REDACTED] Why do you think that  
8 would - - ?

9 MR. MITCHELL: The inmates always had - - .  
10 It's always Gene Palmer's Boys. He's messing  
11 with Gene Palmer's Boys.

12 [REDACTED] Did he have any other  
13 boys?

14 MR. MITCHELL: None that I know of.

15 [REDACTED] Would you know if he had  
16 anything - - and he didn't - - ?

17 MR. MITCHELL: No. The only - - Matt and  
18 Sweat. They're Gene Palmer's boys.

19 [REDACTED] And, what did you thing being  
20 Gene Palmer's Boys meant?

21 MR. MITCHELL: What I seen is this--I seen -  
22 - Gene Palmer come get Matt, say 1, 2:00 in the  
23 afternoon, he - - . Half an hour later he'd  
24 just bring him back in the shop.

25 [REDACTED] So, there were times that he

1 would remove him but there was no--it's like  
2 there wasn't a pre-planned--that he had to go to  
3 medical, or--he'd just remove them.

4 MR. MITCHELL: Yep, yes he did.

5 [REDACTED] Oh, so Gene is the transport  
6 Officer?

7 MR. MITCHELL: He was an escort.

8 [REDACTED] Escort. Does he--so, there  
9 would always be PO still there?

10 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

11 [REDACTED] Always [crosstalk].

12 MR. MITCHELL: -- Gene told me that I'm  
13 coming to get somebody, he told me -- , I'd go,  
14 okay.

15 [REDACTED] And, did your wife ever say  
16 anything about Al Trombley, or was she able to  
17 get--was she able to get the gloves to Gene  
18 Palmer without Al Trombley noticing?

19 MR. MITCHELL: I would say so, yeah.

20 [REDACTED] Did she specifically say  
21 anything--

22 MR. MITCHELL: [I] No.

23 [REDACTED] --about that part?

24 MR. MITCHELL: No.

25 [REDACTED] And, the same with the

1           glasses. Did she specifically--

2           MR. MITCHELL: [I] No.

3           ████████ So, there obviously was there  
4           a time that she would be able to secrete things  
5           or move things without the - - CO seeing?

6           MR. MITCHELL: - - towel. She's in the shop  
7           - - and go to channel.

8           ████████ Those are the opportunities--

9           MR. MITCHELL: [I] Yes.

10          ████████ --when - - . When she was  
11          there earlier, so she could--

12          MR. MITCHELL: [I] Yes.

13          ████████ It is possible she could have  
14          left them some place in--or, could she have left  
15          something in that work station?

16          MR. MITCHELL: Very possible.

17          ████████ Okay. If you know, in Tailor  
18          Shop 1, when the inmates would come in, would it  
19          be all--you said 40 or 50--all 40 inmates go in  
20          ahead of the CO and take their positions?

21          MR. MITCHELL: Yes. Because, the CO's  
22          always watching them - - come in and - - , and  
23          then he'd come in after.

24          ████████ And then, did they call in  
25          saying all 40 of Tailor shop 1?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: No.

2                   ██████████ What did they do?

3                   MR. MITCHELL: Nothing.

4                   ██████████ CO doesn't have to call - - ?

5                   MR. MITCHELL: Only when they leave at  
6 night. When they want to - - at night they were  
7 - - clear. Tailor 1, clear; Tailor 2, clear;  
8 they always do.

9                   ██████████ Okay. Did you ever talk with  
10 your wife about the fact that by communicating  
11 or getting paintings from Sweat or Matt that she  
12 put other civilian workers in danger? Does that  
13 ever come up?

14                  MR. MITCHELL: No.

15                  ██████████ And, it certainly--it's fair  
16 to say you didn't think--you didn't have any  
17 knowledge that this was leading to some--

18                  MR. MITCHELL: [I] No.

19                  ██████████ --complicated, [crosstalk].

20                  MR. MITCHELL: I knew nothing until she  
21 started telling me this. And so, she started  
22 telling me what was going on, I just--I was on  
23 the hill. I didn't know what to say, I just  
24 couldn't believe it. I'm with her - - single  
25 day of my life with somebody. I work with her.

1       We never leave the house without one another,  
2       unless she goes with her mother.

3       ██████████ And, then the long commute  
4       home, the long commute there.

5       MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

6       ██████████ Yeah, and then you're  
7       together most nights.

8       MR. MITCHELL: All the time. I mean, we  
9       never go - - .

10       ██████████ Was there any, ever a  
11       discussion after the escape, anything about cell  
12       phones in the facility, or getting a cell phone?

13       MR. MITCHELL: I asked her. I said, Tilly,  
14       please tell me that's a lie. I swear on █████,  
15       my kid's life, I never, ever used a cell phone,  
16       never.

17       ██████████ How about maps, or escape  
18       routes, or anything like that?

19       MR. MITCHELL: As far as a--when the  
20       investigator--maybe it was somebody else--they  
21       found a map - - .

22       ██████████ Oh.

23       MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, but he never gave it to  
24       them.

25       ██████████ Okay. He found it at the

1 house?

2 MR. MITCHELL: He found it at our house.

3 [REDACTED] And, did he ask if -- in  
4 talking to your wife, was that something she  
5 planned to give to Matt?

6 MR. MITCHELL: I do not know that.

7 [REDACTED] You don't know that.

8 MR. MITCHELL: I don't know that.

9 [REDACTED] Okay, there was a -- from  
10 your home?

11 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

12 [REDACTED] By the State Police?

13 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

14 [REDACTED] Okay.

15 [REDACTED] Was anything else found  
16 that -- questions?

17 MR. MITCHELL: There was the tablets, they  
18 took our tablets, our computers, but they didn't  
19 find nothing on any of it. They -- finally got  
20 the bank statement from September say until June  
21 6th, whatever it was, which showed nothing -- ,  
22 there was never nothing there. They took her  
23 camera, there was nothing there. I asked Tilly,  
24 is there anything on these computer? Lyle, I  
25 swear to God, there's nothing. All they did was

1 take them -- and they -- . I said, if you  
2 find anything on it, please tell me she didn't,  
3 never. And, they never called me or nothing.  
4 It's been three weeks and they never questioned  
5 about nothing.

6 [REDACTED] Did you ask her if they  
7 passed notes to each other, or any...

8 MR. MITCHELL: She did tell me she did Matt  
9 two notes.

10 [REDACTED] Okay, that she walked in and  
11 gave to him?

12 MR. MITCHELL: I--I don't know, they were in  
13 the shop, I would imagine.

14 [REDACTED] Do you know, was the note  
15 about the escape, or was the note just--what was  
16 the note? Did she [crosstalk]?

17 MR. MITCHELL: She didn't say.

18 [REDACTED] Okay.

19 MR. MITCHELL: It had nothing to do with the  
20 escape, I believe, it had to do--I don't know.  
21 He tried to kiss her twice, she said he did.  
22 And then, he wanted to touch her private parts,  
23 she didn't -- , no, no. And then, she wrote a  
24 couple of notes.

25 [REDACTED] Did you ever notice--I would

1 say even from like January on, any change in  
2 behavior - - in - - ?

3 MR. MITCHELL: I mean, nothing.

4 [REDACTED] No physical indication, that  
5 she was quiet, or reserved, or...

6 MR. MITCHELL: Nothing. She cooked supper  
7 every night with my--every weekend--with my  
8 brother and my sister-in-law, and they said  
9 they'd never seen nothing any different,  
10 nothing.

11 [REDACTED] Since she's been in jail have  
12 you found anything in the house that you think -  
13 - basically seemed a [crosstalk].

14 MR. MITCHELL: Absolutely nothing. When the  
15 State Police - - and they found nothing. Every  
16 single thing she told me--she said, Lyle, I did  
17 wrong, and I know I did. She said, I'm telling  
18 you everything, I swear. And, I just--not once  
19 did I find anything to where's she's lied to me  
20 - - . Not one thing.

21 [REDACTED] Okay. Did you ask her about-  
22 -or, did you discuss--or, what, if anything, did  
23 she say in regards to going with them, possibly?

24 MR. MITCHELL: I asked about that - - , she  
25 said, Lyle, she said, how it started was over a

1 painting, and all of a sudden--and, my wife  
2 has always been a heart of gold. We paid her---  
3 -- two kids, -- and she needed money for a down  
4 payment on a--to buy -- made contract. She  
5 needed \$1,000. My wife and I co-signed for  
6 \$1,000 for a --. I mean, she's got a heart of  
7 gold. So, over these paintings, Matt wanted her  
8 to text his daughter. -- over--he always told  
9 her how good of a painter he was, he painted  
10 President Obama, Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe,  
11 and he said it's on eBay, for sale. So, -- it  
12 was like 50, 20, 30 on there. I said, there  
13 ain't nothing on there. She said, it is, it's  
14 all painted, there's tons of painting -- my  
15 daughter, her number, whatever it is. If you  
16 look under there, it was \$15,000, this painting,  
17 whatever it was. So, after -- got her  
18 painting, he said, well if you text my daughter  
19 and ask her about this painting, if he sold it  
20 yet, -- my wife -- wrong, she said -- , she  
21 started texting his daughter.

22 [REDACTED] Does she tell you that at the  
23 time--is this after--

24 MR. MITCHELL: [I] After, this is after. I  
25 didn't know nothing about this. I said, well -

1       - - I'm sorry - - do you know this - - ? - -  
2       telephone, and he said, this is Matt's daughter.  
3       What? And she went - - only on paintings and  
4       then how come you're talking her daughter,  
5       having her calling her father and stuff? I see  
6       the text message, I thought it was nothing, I  
7       thought it was about repaying for - - Matt was  
8       drawing her, stuff like that. So, then she was  
9       supposed to--she wanted to go pick them up. I  
10      can't go pick them up, Lyle is always with me,  
11      always. And that's - - give you some pills, you  
12      give them to Lyle, then. She said, I am not - -  
13      I am not hurting my--I love him, I am not. He  
14      said, - - dead. Someone inside the jail was  
15      going to kill me, or somebody outside the jail.

16                    [REDACTED] So, Matt said to your wife  
17      that either--if he wasn't going to kill you...

18            MR. MITCHELL: Somebody inside the jail--he  
19      was going to have someone inside the jail, or  
20      somebody outside the jail was going to kill me.

21            [REDACTED] If she didn't help.

22            MR. MITCHELL: If she didn't. So, she said,  
23      then I knew I was in too deep. What did I do?  
24      But she said, I didn't - - today. She said, I'm  
25      not going to pick you up. I am not hurting Lyle

1 like that - - .

2 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] So, go to the night of the  
3 5th. You leave work together.

4 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

5 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] And, what happens next?

6 MR. MITCHELL: We stopped on the way home  
7 for Chinese food for supper; we ate. And, we  
8 went home and about 10 after 9 she started to  
9 say, my chest feels heavy and my face feels  
10 numb. I said, that ain't good, let me take you  
11 to the hospital. She said, yeah, there's  
12 something wrong, I got to go. So, we - - .  
13 And, we got there 25 after 9, and [background  
14 beeping] [crosstalk] 20 after 2, 2:30, I said,  
15 I'm going home, I said, to let the dog out, to  
16 take a shower, - - put her in a room. So, I go  
17 home, I did, and at 3:00 she told me they just  
18 got her in a room, she says okay. I'll be there  
19 to pick you up in the morning.

20 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] And, just so I'm clear, did  
21 you--you were driving--so, you were driving the  
22 only car--

23 MR. MITCHELL: [I] Yes, [crosstalk].

24 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] --car or vehicle at the  
25 hospital?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: No, no. I drove her there.  
2                   I go home, I let the dog out went to bed, I got  
3                   up at 7:00, took a shower, and - - back and  
4                   picked her up, and she basically turned her  
5                   phone off all night long because we didn't know-  
6                   -we didn't bring the cord--how long the battery  
7                   would last, so she turned her phone off. She  
8                   turned it back on, it was all kinds of beeps  
9                   went off, everybody looking for her. And our  
10                  Sergeant, where are you? At the hospital.  
11                  She's got the State Police looking for her.  
12                  What? So I called the [REDACTED] - - and said you  
13                  guys looking for us? We're Lyle and Joyce  
14                  Mitchell. We will come to you. - - said people  
15                  escaped. She said, no. So, when got ready to  
16                  leave - - my brother called, my sister-in-law,  
17                  my son, everybody. I said, we're going to the  
18                  Police, she said - - first. I said, yes we are.  
19                  - - .

20                  [REDACTED] As you're driving to the  
21                  Police Station, how was your wife acting?

22                  MR. MITCHELL: - - work for us. - - .

23                  [REDACTED] While you're driving there,  
24                  do you know specifically what inmates are  
25                  missing?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: Yeah, because it was a lady  
2 we work with, [REDACTED] -- oh my God, she said, he  
3 escaped.

4                   [REDACTED] Did it cross your mind, or  
5 did you or wife say anything, oh my God, I  
6 wonder if it was connected to the paintings or  
7 anything with Matt?

8                   MR. MITCHELL: No.

9                   [REDACTED] That never came up?

10                  MR. MITCHELL: No. -- as it developed --  
11 [crosstalk].

12                  [REDACTED] So, you made contact -- .

13                  MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

14                  [REDACTED] That must have been some  
15 drive. I mean, -- work, no one's ever escaped.

16                  MR. MITCHELL: It was only 45 minutes from  
17 the hospital [crosstalk].

18                  [REDACTED] Since that time, since  
19 talking with your wife, have you learned  
20 anything else that you -- previously.

21                  MR. MITCHELL: I -- taxes, her helping  
22 paying -- . And she was writing notes to Matt.  
23 And she -- State Police was on her own, on her  
24 own.

25                  [REDACTED] As you sit here today, what

1 secure--do have any suggestions for a security  
2 lapse in the future that would help make this  
3 facility more secure to prevent things like this  
4 happening? Are there things that you saw that  
5 could be improved upon?

6 MR. MITCHELL: Do the job.

7 [REDACTED] Are you talking about COS,  
8 civilians?

9 MR. MITCHELL: COS. If they were checking  
10 our bag to come in, I'll guarantee you she'd  
11 never brought that in -- [crosstalk].

12 [REDACTED] So there's a lot--

13 MR. MITCHELL: There could be -- walk in  
14 that door at the same time. If you want to  
15 check them out, Lyle, I need to check your  
16 dinner pail today. Tomorrow morning, walk in,  
17 Joyce Mitchell, I need to check your dinner pail  
18 tomorrow--today.

19 [REDACTED] So, random checks of -- .

20 MR. MITCHELL: There should be.

21 [REDACTED] At least...

22 MR. MITCHELL: If I can bring something in,  
23 if there's something I'm not supposed to--any  
24 drugs or -- ? Oh, no, nothing got checked.  
25 They're not checking nothing at all, you can

1 walk in anything you want. They never check  
2 nothing, they don't -- . Okay, I didn't know  
3 my wife -- , okay? They're putting --  
4 everything back onto the State because they're  
5 not--we're understaffed, or--it ain't nothing to  
6 do with that. Get up at night. Open that door,  
7 walk down through that walkway at night, doing  
8 the catwalk at night. Check their stuff. You  
9 get paid \$60, \$80,000 a year. Get up. Get up  
10 and open that door. They come through that  
11 gate, they say Gate 8, they swing it open. They  
12 look, they see two heads, they shut the gate  
13 back, don't say -- and lock that door. Take  
14 the easy -- ; do your job. -- never expect  
15 nothing ever to happen, so they're so relaxed.  
16 But, some are so lazy, it's just unreal. Just  
17 do your job.

18 [REDACTED] So, do you think, is there  
19 anything that civilian workers could do that you  
20 would suggest that would assist Corrections  
21 Officers in doing their job?

22 MR. MITCHELL: No, because what my wife and  
23 what my job is, they're security. My job, my  
24 main job is getting production out. That's my  
25 job, to get my production out. Without that

1 production, we don't -- . So, in my opinion,  
2 no. You're security, that's your security. Our  
3 job is to get production out, don't worry about  
4 our business.

5 [REDACTED] Don't you think it would have  
6 been helpful when you discovered the paintings,  
7 in your home when you talked to your wife, that  
8 you let security know about that?

9 MR. MITCHELL: I guess I should have.

10 [REDACTED] And, if you would have done  
11 that, do you think that would have prompted an  
12 investigation into Matt?

13 MR. MITCHELL: Probably.

14 [REDACTED] So, is that something you  
15 think would have been helpful?

16 MR. MITCHELL: I didn't know; there was a  
17 lot of paintings for a lot of people.

18 [REDACTED] Do you know personally, or do  
19 you [crosstalk]?

20 MR. MITCHELL: I didn't know. I heard  
21 rumors that when there was a lockdown, and  
22 that's when -- told my wife -- . If there's  
23 lockdown, he'd take all these paintings and go  
24 hide them somewhere. -- paintings. He took  
25 all these paintings, he would go hide them.

1 When the lockdown's all done, he'd bring them  
2 all back to him.

3 [REDACTED] Did she say where he hid  
4 them?

5 MR. MITCHELL: I do not know. I do not  
6 know.

7 [REDACTED] Now, when you said 'he' would  
8 hide them...

9 MR. MITCHELL: Gene Palmer would hide it.

10 [REDACTED] Gene Palmer? If they knew  
11 there's was going to be something happening--

12 MR. MITCHELL: [I] -- he always -- Gene  
13 Palmer go gets his stuff and go hide it, he  
14 would. And, when the lockdown stuff was over,  
15 he'd bring all the stuff back to him.

16 [REDACTED] That's another--did you know  
17 that before the escape, or after?

18 MR. MITCHELL: I've known that for a long  
19 time, but I -- .

20 [REDACTED] But do you think--that's  
21 another example--do you think that that kind of  
22 knowledge about a CO sneaking away paintings  
23 from the block, from a cell, would that--could  
24 have that been helpful information to other  
25 security personnel at the jail?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: It could, but didn't--they  
2 say that if you talk then you're labeled a  
3 snitch. I don't care if you're an Officer,  
4 inmate, civilian, who you are; a snitch in jail  
5 is no good. That's my opinion. So, I could say  
6 -- Gene Palmer, how do you go to the  
7 Superintendent, or somebody, and say the Super  
8 Gene Palmer is hiding stuff, or he -- . You --  
9 lock the door, and he said you will never  
10 touch nobody there. You're a snitch.

11                   ████████ I mean, we're talking about  
12 security with--in this case, Matt is a known --  
13 murderer, Sweat killed a cop. Don't you think  
14 at some point, when the contact in question was  
15 Matt, that that should have been something that  
16 was reported, even if it could have endangered  
17 your wife's job?

18                   MR. MITCHELL: It should have--it should  
19 have been, I agree, yes. But, is it what  
20 happened? No.

21                   ████████ If you had to do it over  
22 again today, would you tell about what your  
23 wife--your wife's contact with Matt?

24                   MR. MITCHELL: Probably not.

25                   ████████ Okay.

1 [REDACTED] And then, just for the record,  
2 so they know, Lyle, a lot of other people knew  
3 about this Gene Palmer -- , even the people  
4 that you would reported that too, right?

5 MR. MITCHELL: It's not just me. Everybody  
6 knows in the jail these are Gene Palmer's boys.  
7 They do. Everybody knows it, so I'm -- me, and  
8 I'm not even pointing fingers on Gene. This is  
9 what I hear, and stuff.

10 [REDACTED] But even -- for instance, if  
11 you--you had information that Gene Palmer was  
12 moving paintings, did it ever jump into your  
13 mind that it's plausible that he could also be  
14 moving drugs or moving weapons?

15 MR. MITCHELL: Very possible, but...  
16 [crosstalk] there's nothing worse than being a  
17 snitch in jail. You might just walk through the  
18 door and -- , because you're [crosstalk].

19 [REDACTED] You're not [crosstalk]--

20 MR. MITCHELL: [I] I know, I know. I'm --  
21 a civilian, I'm telling you--

22 [REDACTED] [I] -- your wife--

23 MR. MITCHELL: [I] It doesn't matter if  
24 you're an Officer, inmate, civilian. If you--if  
25 I -- Superintendent over, just say Gene Palmer,

1 I'm just saying Gene Palmer's name, I - -  
2 because I'm telling you, they're going to be  
3 really hard on you. Any other Officer, you're  
4 done.

5 [REDACTED] So, you're saying in - - in  
6 theory, but in fact is, if I were to go in and  
7 snitch about Gene Palmer, other inmates  
8 exchanging things, that it all affected it. You  
9 wouldn't be able to work there comfortably.

10 MR. MITCHELL: Then I'd have to prove it,  
11 okay? I - - see Palmer doing that. - - because  
12 you're never going--you're never going to  
13 survive.

14 [REDACTED] Well, you're aware that  
15 there's an IE Office within the prison, that you  
16 could have gone to them and reported it and done  
17 it even anonymously, or kept it confidential.

18 MR. MITCHELL: If you - - security, and go  
19 into detail, then you are a snitch. Know what,  
20 I might just quit and - - you're better off than  
21 - - .

22 [REDACTED] That's why--just from what  
23 you've told me--it's not the just the inmates  
24 you were worried about with that. It's the  
25 Officers too, right?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: Yes. There ain't nothing  
2 worse than a snitch in jail, I don't care who  
3 you are.

4                   ████████ Had you had any social  
5 contact with Palmer before this? Any other  
6 Officer -- outside of work?

7                   MR. MITCHELL: Never, never. I don't  
8 socialize with nobody, ever, because I'm an hour  
9 and five minutes away. I don't ever--I see them  
10 on the floor, I go hi, I never been to anybody's  
11 house, nothing.

12                  ████████ Okay. It's almost like,  
13 sitting here, I think you could be an instructor  
14 for other civilians, certainly, that work at  
15 jails, saying watch out for these warning signs,  
16 look out for this. Is that fair to say?

17                  MR. MITCHELL: What I've seen in the last  
18 two weeks, I'd love to be an advocate now, to go  
19 around the jails, I really, honestly would.

20 [Crosstalk] what I've seen and what I've been  
21 through, -- people --. If I -- probably.

22                  ████████ Do you think you could be an  
23 asset going forward, instructing or being an  
24 advocate, to try to explain about the dangers,  
25 a real, recent example of what can happen?

1                   MR. MITCHELL: Yes. I would love to be an  
2 advocate and go and tell anybody new coming into  
3 classes, and tell them what I know, now.

4                   ████████ I mean, you've lost your  
5 wife, here. And, are you on administrative  
6 leave?

7                   MR. MITCHELL: Yes, yes.

8                   ████████ So, it's affected your  
9 marriage, certainly and clearly. Your wife is  
10 out of the house, in jail. You're suspended--  
11 or, [crosstalk] administrative leave on your  
12 job. Your life was at stake.

13                  MR. MITCHELL: -- trying to get me  
14 transferred to a different jail. It would be  
15 hard to go back there with everything that's  
16 going on right now. Very hard. My life is  
17 going be all these Officers, Administration;  
18 it's just very, very hard for me to go back  
19 there.

20                  ████████ Where's the nearest DOCCS  
21 facility--

22                  MR. MITCHELL: --, it's like 15 or 20  
23 minutes from my house.

24                  ████████ 15, 20 minutes, so that could  
25 be closer.

1 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

2 [REDACTED] And, is your job Union, or is  
3 it--

4 MR. MITCHELL: [I] Yes.

5 [REDACTED] It is Union?

6 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

7 [REDACTED] Yes, he -- .

8 [REDACTED] Okay. So, currently you're  
9 petitioning to try to get work somewhere else.

10 MR. MITCHELL: Yes, -- trying to get me --  
11 because -- . I sent my resume out, I used to  
12 do maintained mechanic, wiring, and -- nothing  
13 I ain't never done. I've done it all. -- work  
14 trying to get you out of that jail.

15 [REDACTED] -- .

16 [REDACTED] That's one of the reasons why  
17 he's just trying to cooperate with everyone, you  
18 know?

19 MR. MITCHELL: It's very, very hard, you put  
20 yourself in my position, to go back to that  
21 jail. Matt had a lot of friends there. He did.  
22 Who knows that one of these inmates -- me?  
23 Some of the Officers may be mad at me. What my  
24 wife did definitely wrong. I have a  
25 Superintendent -- who's knows what's going on.

1 There's a lot in that jail, and--if I got to  
2 go back to work.

3 [REDACTED] Can I ask you a question?  
4 Speaking about your wife, did she ever talk to  
5 you about any of her performance reviews?

6 MR. MITCHELL: What do you mean?

7 [REDACTED] James was speaking  
8 earlier, he asked you if you had a performance  
9 reviews done in your job.

10 MR. MITCHELL: Her evaluation too?

11 [REDACTED] Yeah.

12 MR. MITCHELL: Hers have always been  
13 excellent, same as mine. -- does good job,  
14 cooperates with other employees --.

15 [REDACTED] Did she ever mention to  
16 you around 2013 -- that she was doing favors --  
17 - towards some inmates?

18 MR. MITCHELL: How that started, the  
19 painting--nobody -- a few. Even the  
20 Superintendent Officers, they -- COs, cops,  
21 lawyers, that's what they -- .

22 [Crosstalk]

23 MR. MITCHELL: -- she'd run that shop  
24 there. Because she was excellent on her  
25 evaluation. She was always excellent. But,

1 yeah, in other shops, I seen -- excellent on  
2 evaluation, my wife -- . The Officer knew the  
3 --Superintendent, -- what are you doing --  
4 asking this lady -- .

5 [REDACTED] Who said that?

6 MR. MITCHELL: -- Superintendent. And--

7 [REDACTED] [I] -- work with her, or--

8 MR. MITCHELL: [I] -- deal with her.

9 That's how it started, -- favoritism for  
10 everybody does excellent -- . Some people got  
11 10 -- on evaluations, but one or two, and she  
12 took it to the shop and wrote her up. That's  
13 how -- favoritism. -- my evaluation, I put  
14 seven or eight of them, and she put one or two.

15 [REDACTED] never liked--did not like her. She  
16 didn't.

17 [REDACTED] And, did you know if your  
18 wife ever walked down to the cell block areas?

19 MR. MITCHELL: Never. Why I say that--first  
20 time I went in there, I was there like, two,  
21 three, four months, I -- lockdown. So,  
22 Sergeant -- you want to go with me? You never  
23 seen it enforced. You betcha, I never seen  
24 this, -- , men on the toilet, getting dressed  
25 and everything else. So, -- , you betcha. So,

1 I went with one of the Officers -- and I  
2 watched them -- . And, he said -- go on the  
3 catwalk. And, so I'd never been up to the  
4 catwalk, -- that was nine years ago. And  
5 then, -- but you can't take -- down through  
6 there, because the -- sitting on the toilet, or  
7 he's getting dressed, but -- she's never, ever  
8 been in a block with -- walked by, standing  
9 there, -- block, never. They can't take a  
10 female because -- and they're naked, or  
11 [crosstalk]. So, she's never, ever been -- ,  
12 never.

13 [REDACTED] Anything else?

14 [REDACTED] Thank you for taking so much  
15 time with us.

16 [REDACTED] Like I said, he's helping you  
17 guys -- .

18 MR. MITCHELL: Anything I can help.

19 [REDACTED] If I think of something I'll  
20 definitely reach back out to you.

21 MR. MITCHELL: I've been through so much the  
22 last several days, and I have not lied or  
23 nothing [crosstalk] my head.

24 [REDACTED] -- put myself in your  
25 position.

1                   MR. MITCHELL: But my wife had told me  
2 every single thing she had done. Every single  
3 thing, and she ain't lied about nothing. She's  
4 just trying to help, saying, I know what I did  
5 was wrong, I've got to correct it, she said.  
6 Watch the news, and - - lies, how she said sex  
7 with an inmate 100 times in Tailor 3. You've  
8 been in the Tailor shop, you've been in the  
9 jail. Tailor 3 is completely opened up. - -  
10 This issue area is the cage. If somebody had  
11 sex and - - men watching that? - - she brought  
12 him in there, but people - - being friends  
13 because she so kind-hearted. That's how it  
14 started. It was stupid, very stupid. There's  
15 just so much lies, and so there's so much more  
16 to it that we don't know. Two hacksaw blades  
17 and a - - did not get them out of that jail.  
18 That's like--no way. I've seen the holes, and  
19 all this - - cell. Hacksaw blades - - fucking  
20 big holes through these metal walls and  
21 everything else? No way.

22                   ████████ - - Are you still in love  
23 with your wife?

24                   MR. MITCHELL: Love my wife to death. Do I  
25 - - she did - - man? No, not really. She's my

1 best friend. --. Long time. I've been with  
2 her 21 years. I'd die for that lady. --.  
3 What she did was wrong, but she told me every  
4 single thing, she lied about not one single  
5 thing. --.

6 [REDACTED] Well, thank you. Thank you  
7 so much for...

8 MR. MITCHELL: I am so glad to help. I have  
9 nothing --.

10 [REDACTED] I appreciate that, I  
11 appreciate it. Thanks, [REDACTED].

12 [REDACTED] Thanks.

13 [REDACTED] So, --.

14 [END RECORDING]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

3                   The prior proceedings were transcribed from  
4                   audio files and have been transcribed to the  
5                   best of my ability. I further certify that I am  
6                   not connected by blood, marriage or employment  
7                   with any of the parties herein nor interested  
8                   directly or indirectly in the matter  
9                   transcribed.

### Signature

gabriel Ats

Date 7/14/2015